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BS EN 1090

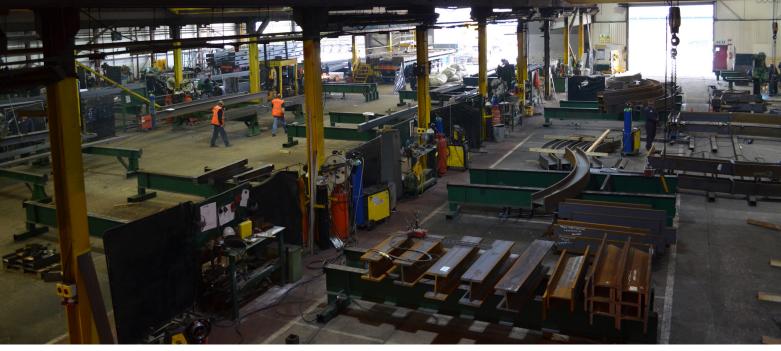
Steel fabrications with CE certification - an essential quality

Within the construction industry, July 2014 marks the point when all fabricated steelwork must meet the harmonised European standards BS EN 1090 and carry the CE mark.

The certification process can take more than 12 months to complete, depending on the procedures already in place and must have been completed before a fabrication company can deliver steel for construction work.

John Cotterill, Operations Director (Fabrications) for ECS Engineering Services outlines the requirements and the processes involved in achieving CE certification.

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Legislation:

The new Construction Products Regulations were released making CE marking mandatory and enforceable by criminal law.

Categories:

Under BS EN 1090, there are 4 Execution Classes which are determined by the building type, the consequences of failure to human life and design complexity.

Steelwork contractors are certified for a particular Execution Class (EXC) from 1 - 4 and may work on any structure which is equal to or below their certified EXC.

- 1. Farm Buildings
- 2. Most conventional buildings
- 3. Bridges
- 4. Special Structures

Requirements:

BS EN 1090 requires a Factory Production Control (FPC) to be implemented, ensuring complete traceability of every component from source through the fabrication process to the final delivery to site. An assessment is carried out by an approved body and will include scrutiny of records, personnel training, qualifications and competencies.

ECS already meets the quality standard BS EN 9001 and the welding quality standard BS EN 3834, both of which are contributing factors in gaining CE approval.

Gaining Approval:

ECS has gained CE Marking approval to EXC4 which has a more rigorous assessment of ability, compared to EXC2 which many fabricators have opted for.

In passing the assessment, ECS has proven that it has all the required attributes to apply the CE mark to its steel fabrications. The assessment is repeated on an annual basis to make certain that the staff qualifications and FPC are being maintained. This also ensures continued membership of the British Constructional Steelwork Association (BCSA)

Continued Achievement:

Gaining CE approval is the latest achievement by ECS which underlines the professional and dedicated approach of its employees, complementing previous awards under BS EN 14001, Environmental Management and BS OHSAS 18001 Health and Safety Management, as well as a sixth consecutive Gold award from RoSPA.



